Recycled Syringes Racket

*55. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Recycled Syringe racket thriving" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 26.12.96;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what effective measures are being taken to ensure that the used syringes are not recycled and used again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has *inter-alia* been alleged in the news item that the rag pickers and even hospital aramcharis remove the syringes from garbage umps at various Government hospitals and ispose off the same in the ready market. In espect of the Central Government hospitals and ose of Government of National Capital erritory of Delhi, it has been reported that the ontents of news item is not based on facts.

(c) In Central Government hospitals only isposable syringes and needles and auto-aved glass syringes are used. The nozzle of e disposable syringes are cut and disinfected ith bleaching powder and finally destroyed incineration after once used. Steps have been ken by Central Government hospitals to ocure needle shredders and syringe shredders hich destroy the used needles and syringes fectively. The hospitals under the Government National Capital Territory of Delhi have ported that they are destroying used needles incinerators. The hospitals which are esently not having the facility of incineration, spatch their syringes to other hospitals having cineration facilities for disposal. Detailed idelines have been issued by the Government the control of Hospital acquired infection der which the disposal system for needles ve been specifically outlined to all States and ion Territories.

Construction of civil airport at Bhuj

*56. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 6.00 crores for the construction of civil airport at Bhuj;

(b) if so, whether the tenders for the construction have been invited after making out the plan;

(c) if so, the present status of the project; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for its completion and to make it operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) Bhuj airport belongs to Indian Air Force. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has a plan to construct a civil air terminal complex at Bhuj in the Ninth Plan period. Estimates are under preparation.

A token provision of Rs. 20 lakhs during 1997-98 has been made for this project.

Rewards to informers for information about smuggled goods

*57. SMT. URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy or guidelines to pay the item-wise rewards to the informers who give information of smuggled goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many cases are pending as on 31.12.96 for payment of such rewards to the informers who gave information of smuggled goods in Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c) Informers providing clue to smuggled goods are eligible to payment of Reward upto 20% of the value of goods seized.